

REMARKS

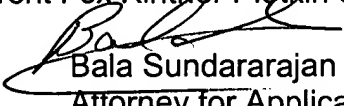
Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 1 is amended. No new matter is added. In view of the above amendment to claim 1, Applicants request favorable consideration of claims 1-8.

Claim 1 is directed to a delay time adjusting method of adjusting a delay time of an input signal so that a phase of the input signal and a phase of an output signal match each other, based on a comparison between phases of the input signal and the output signal. The method comprises the step of increasing the delay time in response to a signal which indicates a start of adjusting the delay time to adjust the phase of the output signal.

The support for the amendment of claim 1 can be found in the specification, Page 13, Lines 22-35. In view of this amendment, it is submitted that claims 1-8 recite subject matter that is neither taught nor suggested by the applied references. Applicant respectfully requests the favorable consideration of this application. Claim 1 is amended. No new matter is presented. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment for any additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper to Counsel's Deposit Account 01-2300, referring to client-matter number 100353-00039.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Marked-Up Copy of Amended Claim
Petition for Extension of Time

MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Thrice Amended) A delay time adjusting method of adjusting a delay time of an input signal so that a phase of said input signal and a phase of an output signal match each other, based on a comparison between phases of said input signal and said output signal, the method comprising the step of:

increasing the delay time ~~delaying to adjust said phase of said output in response to~~
~~a signal irrespective of said comparison when starting the delay time adjustment~~ which
indicates a start of adjusting the delay time to adjust said phase of said output signal.